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DE RUEHSA #3765 2981510  
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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2428  
INFO RUEHZO/AFRICAN UNION COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 0685  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE 0557  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 0366  
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE 0105  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 0598  
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KYIV IMMEDIATE 0121  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 1344  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 0692  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 0465  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 1203  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 1272  
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 0497  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0462

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 003765

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/25/2017

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [KPKO](#) [UN](#) [SU](#) [SF](#)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR DELIVERS DEMARCHE ON AVIATION ASSETS  
FOR DARFUR

REF: STATE 147491

Classified By: Ambassador Eric M. Bost for Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

(C) Ambassador delivered reftel demarche to SAG DFA DepForMin Sue Van der Merwe on 10/25/2007, reiterating the urgent need for specialized air assets to be deployed for peacekeeping in Darfur and emphasizing South Africa's comparative advantage to make a contribution compared to other African countries. DepForMin Van der Merwe thanked the Ambassador and indicated that this issue was actively discussed recently at the cabinet level -- at least twice -- after the US, UK and France had variously delivered similar demarches. Post believes the SAG is sympathetic to this demarche and will make an effort to respond positively to this request. However, due to constraints related to deployment of its relatively small uniformed services for several other peace support roles in Africa, the SAG/SANDEF lacks the capacity to respond at the level that is being requested. Post remains convinced that despite the constraints on SAG capacity, demarches to the SAG for these and other AU-related peacekeeping missions will likely gain more traction if delivered by the AU or other African troop contributing countries.  
BOST